

Conference Call Roll Call and Key Discussion Points
Monday, November 16, 2015
2:00 – 3:30 p.m. EDT

Roll Call

Tribal Caucus

- ☐ Region 1: TBD
- ☒ Region 2: Neil Patterson (Tuscarora Nation)
- ☒ Region 4: Katie Tiger (Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians)
- ☐ Region 4 *Alternate*: Gintautas Zavadzkas (Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida)
- ☒ Region 5: Jeffrey Mears (Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin)
- ☒ Region 6: Curtis Munoz (Kiowa Tribe)
- ☒ Region 7: Denise Jensen (Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska)
- ☐ Region 8: Mike Durglo (Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes)
- ☐ Region 8 *Alternate*: Scott Clow (Ute Mountain Ute Tribe)
- ☒ Region 9: Carley Whitecrane (Karuk Tribe)
- ☐ Region 10: LeeJuan Tyler (Shoshone Bannock Tribes)
- ☒ Region 10 *Alternate*: Kelly Wright (Shoshone Bannock Tribes)
- ☐ Region 10 (Alaska): Orville Huntington (Tanana Chiefs Conference)

EPA Caucus

- ☐ Region 1: Robert Hillger
- ☒ Region 2: Kai Tang
- ☒ Region 4: Tom Baugh
- ☒ Region 5: Kathy Mayo
- ☐ Region 6: Mark Allen
- ☐ Region 7: Brenda Groskinsky
- ☒ Region 7 *Alternate*: Amber Tucker
- ☐ Region 8: Patti Tyler
- ☒ Region 9: Destinee Cooper
- ☐ Region 10: Lon Kissinger
- ☐ AIEO: Mary Powell
- ☒ OAR: Adam Baumgart-Getz
- ☒ OCHP: Ted Coopwood
- ☒ OEI: Beth Jackson
- ☒ OCSPP: Karen Hamernik
- ☒ ORD: David Jewett
- ☐ ORD: John McKernan
- ☒ OSWER: David Charters
- ☒ OW: Felicia Wright

Support Personnel

- ☒ Monica Rodia, TSC Executive Secretary
- ☐ Mya Sjogren, National Program Directors' Liaison
- ☐ Mary Allen, Support Contractor (SCG)
- ☒ Kristen LeBaron, Support Contractor (SCG)

Other Attendees/Invited Speakers

- ☒ Ken Bailey
- ☒ Cynthia McOliver

Action Items

1. Monica Rodia will inform Jay Benforado and Ed Washburn about the three citizen science case studies chosen by the Tribal Caucus.
2. Monica will provide information to the TSC members about the structure of other EPA-tribal partnership groups.

Key Discussion Points

Meeting Minutes

- The October TSC call minutes have been finalized and distributed to the members. The new format is more streamlined and allows better tracking of monthly teleconference attendance.

Tribal Caucus Report Out

- During its recent teleconference, the Tribal Caucus identified three priority projects for the citizen science case studies session at the face-to-face meeting:
 - Whitebark pine survey and invasive species applications (Mike Durglo)
 - Nature's Notebook: Indigenous Geography Phenology Network (Dan Wildcat, who will be present in Washington, D.C., at the time of the TSC face-to-face meeting)
 - White Earth Nation Air Monitoring Project (Chet Wayland/Kristen Benedict)
- Monica will inform Jay and Ed that these cases studies were chosen as priorities by the Tribal Caucus.
- The Tribal Caucus also had discussed holding the spring face-to-face meeting in Montana. Mike Durglo had indicated that he can arrange a field trip to Glacier National Park so that the TSC members can learn about environmental efforts his tribe is undertaking.

EPA Caucus Report Out

- Dave Jewett introduced himself as the new EPA Co-Chair. He works in the Office of Research and Development (ORD) in Oklahoma, which is convenient as Curtis Munoz also is located in Oklahoma. The current focus of the EPA Caucus is how ORD can support tribes with technical, research and other types of assistance. He would like Tribal Caucus input about specific tribal science needs that ORD may be able to assist tribes with so that he can schedule the most relevant presentations during TSC monthly teleconferences.

Fall 2015 TSC Face-to-Face Meeting

- The Agenda Development Team, which has a good balance of EPA and Tribal Representatives, has been working to develop the agenda for the upcoming face-to-face meeting.
- The travel day for the meeting is November 30, and the 2.5-day meeting will be held December 1–3. Participants can travel home either the afternoon of December 3 or on December 4.
- All hotel and flight reservations for those attending should have been made at this point.

Fall 2015 TSC Face-to-Face Meeting Agenda Overview

- The Tribal Caucus would like to learn about tools that EPA can offer tribes to address their science priorities. The Tribal Caucus chose three short-term research priorities on which to focus during the session at the face-to-face meeting:
 - EPA tools and resources available to tribes to include ORD technical support/assistance.
 - Hydrofracking and oil/petroleum industry activities: how to keep them environmentally sound and information on their impact on ground water systems.
 - Lack of risk assessment of tribal populations regarding subsistence diets (PCBs, dioxins, mercury, cyanotoxins).
- Jeff Mears would like input from the TSC to help him address the National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy and Technology's (NACEPT) current charge on citizen science. Jay and Ed will provide information about NACEPT and citizen science at the face-to-face meeting. The White House recently held an event about citizen science, which will be a strong focus of the federal government moving forward. The session at the face-to-face meeting and the government's focus provide a good opportunity to share ideas about how to get tribes involved with and use citizen science. Citizen science is

a tangible topic that the Tribal Representatives can share with their Regional Tribal Operations Committees (RTOCs) and tribes in their regions.

- Several speakers are scheduled during the session on short-term tribal research priorities and other tribal science issues:
 - Tom Burke (Deputy Assistant Administrator of ORD) will present about ORD research.
 - Representatives from the Sustainable and Healthy Communities Research Program and the Safe and Sustainable Water Research Program will present information about their programs.
 - Jeff Frithsen will present about hydrofracking issues.
 - Ruth Etzel, Director of EPA's Office of Children's Health Protection, will speak about tribal children's health issues.
- Mike is planning to develop a list of discussion items about the TSC operating structure that the EPA and Tribal Caucuses will discuss during the Caucus sessions at the face-to-face meeting. Monica will provide information to the TSC members about the structure of other EPA-tribal partnership groups to help guide this discussion at the face-to-face meeting.
- To maximize travel resources for tribal members, representatives from federal agencies outside of Washington, D.C., will not be invited to attend the face-to-face meeting. Several local federal agency representatives are scheduled to attend the climate change roundtable session during the face-to-face meeting.
- There are questions about Kathy Lynn and her credentials in terms of her representing tribes about climate change issues and needed resources from federal agencies. This issue will be addressed during the next Agenda Development Team meeting, which will be scheduled for Wednesday, November 18 at 1:00 p.m. EST.
- The theme for Day 2 of the face-to-face meeting will be "Tools to Reconnect."
- An important part of the meeting will occur on Day 3, when the TSC determines its actions (with timelines) moving forward.
- Denise Jensen and Neil Patterson will be recognized at the face-to-face meeting for their service to the TSC; this will be their last meeting.
- A teleconference line will be available for those who cannot attend the face-to-face meeting in person. The call-in number and access code are on the meeting agenda.

Announcements

- There were no announcements.

Next TSC Teleconference

- The Co-Chairs have decided to cancel the December teleconference since the Council is meeting in-person in December. The next TSC teleconference will be held January 11 or 25, 2016 due to the federal holiday on Monday, January 18.